



Dr. Aaron Thompson

Interim President Kentucky State University

Dr. Aaron Thompson was named Interim President of Kentucky State University on May 31, 2016.

Prior to this appointment, Dr. Thompson served as the Executive Vice President for the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. He has also served as a Professor of Sociology in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at Eastern Kentucky University.

Thompson has a Ph.D. in Sociology in areas of Organizational Behavior and Race and Gender relations. Thompson has over 25 years of leadership experience in higher education and business. In addition, he has spent numerous years serving on non-profit boards in leadership roles.

Dr. Thompson has researched, taught and/or consulted in areas of diversity, leadership, ethics, multicultural families, race and ethnic relations, student success, first-year students, retention, cultural competence and organizational design throughout his personal career. He has over 30 publications and numerous research and peer reviewed presentations.

Dr. Thompson has traveled over the U.S. and has given more than 700 workshops, seminars and invited lectures in areas of race and gender diversity, living an unbiased life, overcoming obstacles to gain success, creating a school environment for academic success, cultural competence, workplace interaction, leadership, organizational goal setting, building relationships, the first-year seminar and a variety of other topics. He has served as a consultant to educational institutions (elementary, secondary and postsecondary), corporations, non-profit organizations, police departments, and other governmental agencies.

His latest authored or co-authored books are: *Changing Student Culture from the Ground Up*, *The Sociological Outlook*, *Infusing Diversity and Cultural Competence into Teacher Education*, *Peer to Peer Leadership: Changing Student Culture from the Ground Up*. He also co-authored *Thriving in College and Beyond: Research-Based Strategies for Academic Success*, *Thriving in the Community College and Beyond: Research-Based Strategies for Academic Success and Personal Development*, *Diversity and the College Experience*, *Focus on Success* and *Black Men and Divorce*.